

Business Meeting Minutes

2009 NCCC-167 Meeting Allerton Conference Center, Monticello Illinois March 10-12, 2009

March 12, 2009

State Representatives Present: Martin Bohn (U. of Illinois), Sherry Flint-Garcia (USDA-ARS; Missouri), Shawn Kaeppler and Natalia de Leon (U. of Wisconsin), Richard Pratt (U. of Ohio), Paul Scott and Candice Gardner (USDA-ARS; Iowa)

Administrative Advisor: B. Tracy (U. of Wisconsin).

Committee Chair, Paul Scott called the meeting to order and presented an outline of items to be discussed.

1. 2008 Official Minutes

A draft of the 2008 minutes was sent to the email list serve on April 8, 2008 and was open for comments and corrections. The official minutes were posted on website. A motion to accept the minutes was made (Rich Pratt) and seconded (Martin Bohn), and the minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Treasurer Report

The treasurer, Marcelo Carena (NDSU), was absent due to winter weather. Paul Scott presented the budget situation to the group.

Previous balance	0.00
2009 meeting cost	- 14,041.08
Incoming funds as of 3-12-09	12,840.52
(\$8,385.20 from registration fees)	
(\$4,455.32 donated by T. Rocheford)	
<hr/> Balance	<hr/> -1,200.56

The cost of the 2009 meeting at Allerton was very expensive as compared to prior meetings. The low attendance was partially attributed to the increased cost, and contributed to our inability to pay for the meeting through registration fees. Fortunately, surplus funds from the 2007 "Future of Maize Genetics" meeting were donated by Torbert Rocheford to help offset some of the deficit. In Marcelo's absence, we could not assume that carrying a negative balance in the account was acceptable.

3. Administrative Advisor Report

Bill Tracy informed the group of report requirements and upcoming deadlines.

- The 2009 meeting report is always due 60 after the meeting. This report consists of an attendance list, abstracts from presentations, the minutes, and state experiment station reports. The secretary is responsible for filing this report.

- The mid-term report is already overdue (due date of Dec. 15, 2009). Because of an oversight, our group did not receive notice that this report was due. Rich Pratt volunteered to write the mid-term report.
- The current project expires in 2011, and will be up for renewal in 2010. The due date for the renewal is in December 2010. A writing committee was already appointed at the 2008 meeting (Bill Beavis and Rich Pratt).

4. Corn Breeding Executive Committee (CBEC)

Bill Tracy reported that the ad hoc Executive Committee (appointed at the 2008 NCCC167 meeting in Baltimore, MD) met in June at the SCCC-80 breeding meeting. Only 2-3 members of the ad hoc committee were present; therefore, discussion was tabled until the 2009 NCCC167 meeting.

We decided to design the Corn Breeding Executive Committee (CBEC) after the Maize Genetics Executive Committee (MGEC): members serve a 5 year term, elections occur just before the maize meetings, runoff elections are held between the primary nominees, members rotate on and off the committee in a staggered fashion, leaving sufficient member overlap for continuity and institutional memory. A point was made that our group was too small to be support rotation on and off the CBEC. The conclusion – in order for our group to be sustained and worthy of an executive committee, we need to make the corn breeding group larger by being more inclusive.

Paul pointed out that it is the responsibility of the CBEC to define our group. We need a mechanism for appointing CBEC members.

Shawn pointed out that our group is too small to have a strong voice (i.e. to pursue funding to get what we need). We need a fairly sizeable executive committee.

Potential resources for identifying new corn breeding community members include: IL Corn Breeders School attendee list, 2006 Corn Breeding Survey (administered by M. Bohn), Maize BioList (maintained by M. Sachs), Maize Genetics Steering committee list (2009 Committee Chair: Steve Moose). The CBEC should obtain access to these lists, send a solicitation email, and add positive responders to the Corn Breeding Community.

The executive committee should define the bylaws, mimicking those of the GEM or MGEC.

The group present decided to appoint a new Provisional Executive Committee to begin implementation of the following:

- Define Bylaws and Mission Statement of the CBEC.
- Define the Community via email
- Develop a new webpage independent of the NCCC167 webpage. This is to make the group more inclusive (not regionally defined).

Nominations were held for the Provisional Executive Committee. Elections were held, and the following were elected:

- Martin Bohn
- Paul Scott
- Sherry Flint-Garcia
- Travis Frey (Industry Representative)
- Tom Brutnell (to provide advice from the MGEC)

The Provisional Executive Committee will initiate these steps before field season begins.

5. Election of Officers

In an email, Treasurer-Secretary Marcelo Carena requested splitting the Treasurer-Secretary office into two separate offices. Because he is not able to regularly attend the meeting, he felt it would benefit the group to elect a regular attendee as Secretary. A motion was made (Rich Pratt) and seconded (Natalie de Leon) to split the offices, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Nominations were made for the post of Secretary, for the term ending in 2011. Sherry Flint-Garcia was elected by unanimous vote.

Nominations were made for Chair-Elect (will be Chair of the 2011 meeting). Shawn Kaeppler was elected by unanimous vote.

Former Chair-Elect Liz Lee becomes the new Chair, and will host the 2010 meeting in Guelph, Ontario.

6. Regional Yield Trials

In 2008, the 100-300 Maturity Group conducted their yield trials, though no one from that group was present to present their results.

There was not enough interest in the 400-600 Maturity Group to conduct trials in 2008.

The 700-800 Maturity Group conducted trials in 2008. Rich Pratt distributed the yield trial results.

Some people were still interested in the testing program, so those interested in participating will communicate with others in the same Maturity Group to coordinate trials on a yearly basis.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting, and Meeting was adjourned. A large number of NCCC-167 attendees then drove to St. Charles, IL to attend the Maize Genetics Conference.